

The DLR THETA code, the incompressible brother of TAU, an overview

M. Lambert, R. Kessler, M. Di Domenico, B. Noll

TAU User Meeting

October 18 + 19, 2011, DLR Braunschweig



DLR

Deutsches Zentrum
für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

slide 1 > The DLR THETA code, the incompressible brother of TAU > Markus Lambert
TAU User Meeting > DLR Braunschweig > October 18 + 19, 2011



Center for Computer
Applications in
AeroSpace Science
and Engineering



Contents

THETA, basic properties

Developers

Modular Structure of TAU/THETA

Numerical Methods

Models

Applications

Outlook

THETA, Turbulent Heat Release Extension of TAU, basic properties

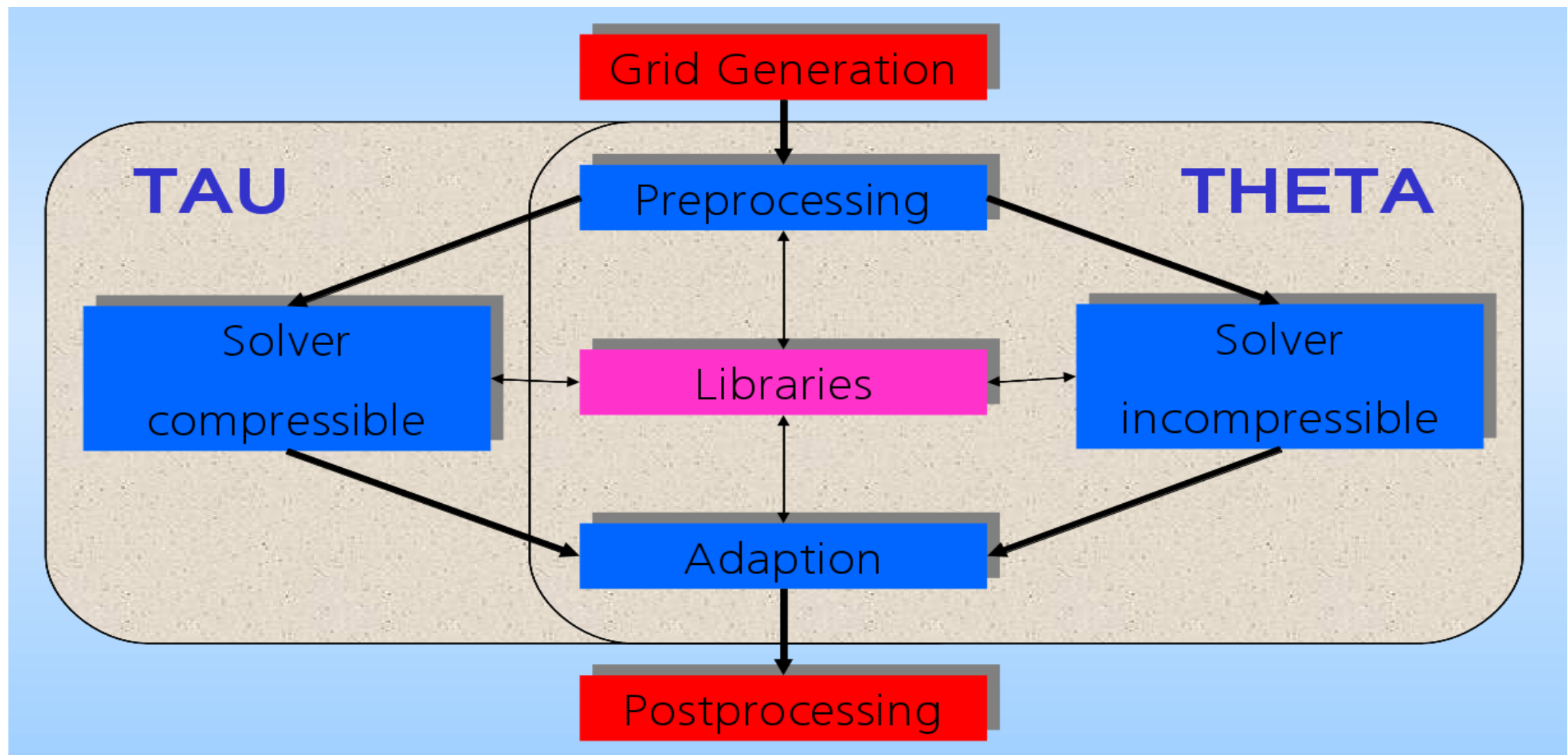
- numerical **incompressible** ($\rho \neq \rho(p)$) Reynolds Averaged Navier-Stokes ((U)-RANS) Solver
- optimised for low Mach number, steady and unsteady flows
- 3D finite volume method on unstructured hybrid grids, dual grid approach
- very large grids and high complex geometries
- rotating geometries
- massive parallel computations, domain decomposition approach
- high accuracy in flow prediction
- **user defined functions (complex Boundary/Initial Conditions)**
- **universal modular model interface (turbulence, combustion, heat transport) (no changes in basic code), easy to implement**



Developers

- **Institute of Aerodynamics and Flow Technology, C²A²S²E Center for Computer Applications in AeroSpace Science and Engineering, Göttingen**
 - **R. Kessler, Head C²A²S²E-Group Incompressible Solver**, Numerical Methods
 - **M. Lambert**, Numerical Methods, Heat-Radiation, VOF
 - **J. Löwe**, Numerical Methods, CHIMERA
- **Institute of Combustion Technology, Numerical Methods, Stuttgart**
 - **M. Lourier, G. Reichling**, Combustor Acoustics
 - **J. Boyde**, Ignition Modeling
 - **A. Filosa**, Linear Eddy Modeling
 - **G. Eckel, P. Le Clercq, M. Rachner**, Multiphase Flow
 - **T. Blacha, C. Eberle**, Soot Modeling
 - **P. Ess, A. Fiolitakis**, Transported PDF
 - **E. Ivanova**, Turbulence Modeling

Modular Structure of TAU/THETA



Numerical Methods - THETA flow solver

- Pressure Velocity Coupling:
 - **SIMPLE** (Semi-Implicit Method for Pressure-Linked Equations)
 - Projection Method.
 - In both cases a Poisson Equation for the Pressure Correction has to be solved.
- Time Discretization: Euler Implicit, Three Points Backwards, Crank-Nicolson or Euler Explicit
- Partially implicit formulation: terms without gradients are treated implicitly, terms with gradients are treated explicitly, stable enough for uncritical simulations, saving computational time
- fully implicit formulation: all terms are treated implicitly, for critical grids and solutions with strong density gradients, 30 % more computational time
- Higher stability, bigger time steps, CFL-number $\gg 1$
- Solving the Linear systems:
 - matrix free formulation, no Matrix is stored
 - momentum equation, scalar equations: PBCGS, GMRES with restart
 - Poisson equation for pressure correction (SIMPLE/Projection): PBCGS, GMRES with restart, Multigrid with Jacoby and PBCGS smoother



Numerical Methods - Combustion

➤ Challenge:

- Large number of unknowns (up to 100 mixture components)
- Numerical stiffness through chemical source term

➤ Numerical method:

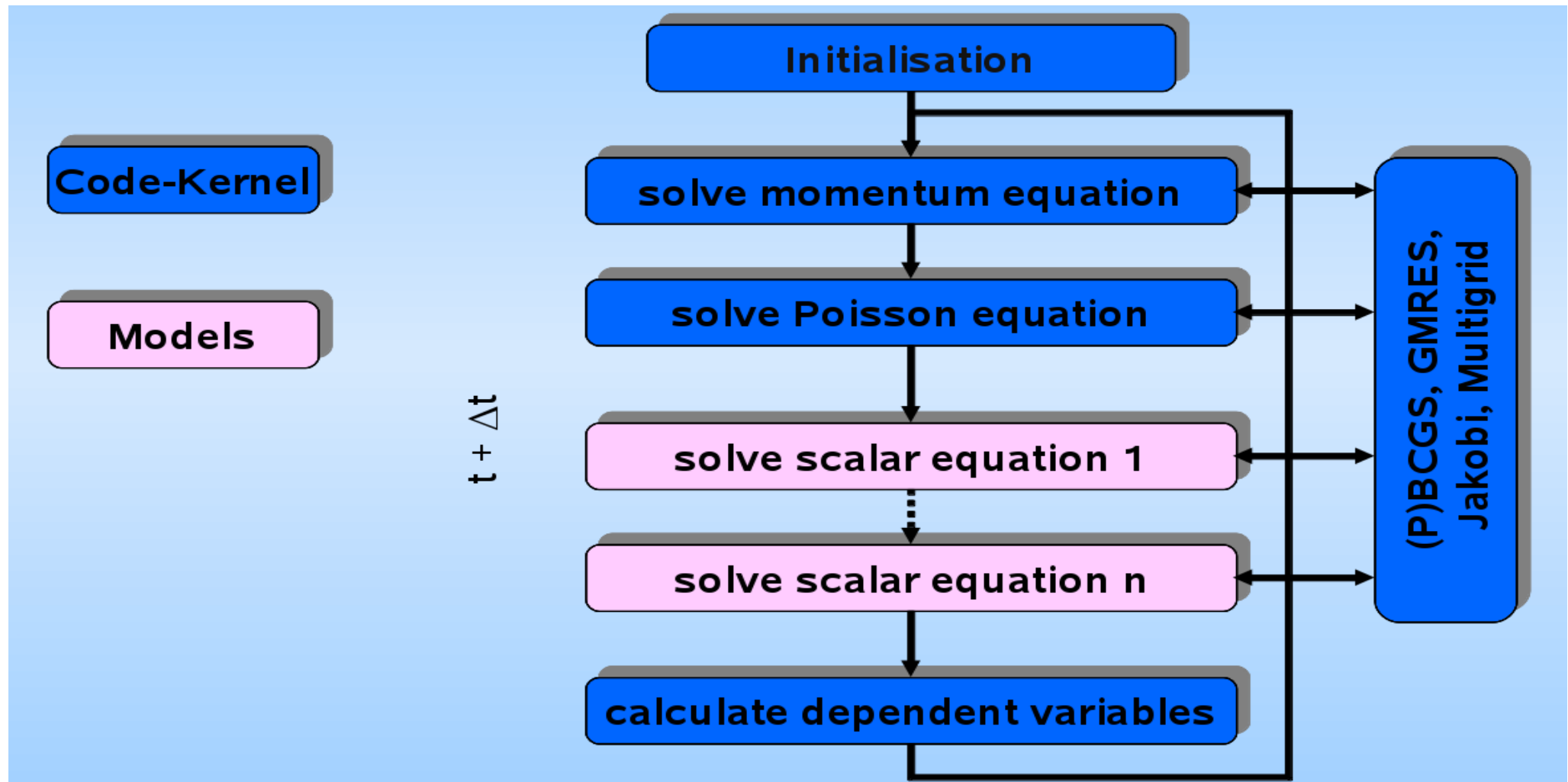
- Semi-implicit treatment of the linearised source
- Coupled solution algorithm (with optional full-Jacobian preconditioning)



Models

- Code kernel contains Solvers for Momentum equation and Poisson equation for pressure correction (laminar flow)
- Extensions like turbulence models, heat transport, radiation, combustion is done by linking models via an interface to the Code kernel
- To link a new Model only a few additional lines have to be added to the Code kernel
- Each model consists of a defined number of functions which are combined in one module file
- A model can contain
 - Definition of additional Variables
 - Solving of one or more transport equations
 - source terms (implicit/explicit) in each of this transport equations
 - source terms for the momentum equation
 - calculation/modification of dependent Variables like density or viscosity
 - allocating, input and output of Variables and Parameters are dynamic
- no different binaries for switching on or off models

Models



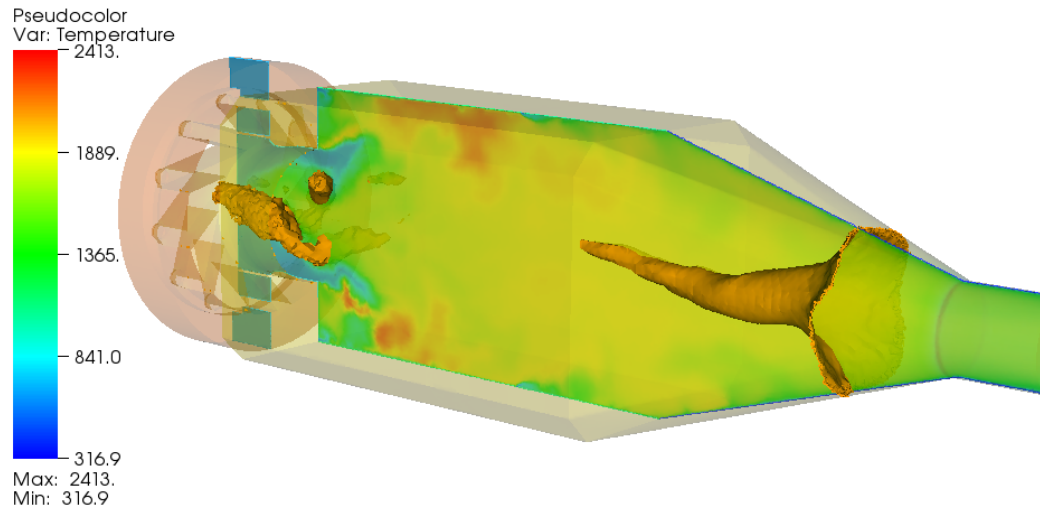


Models

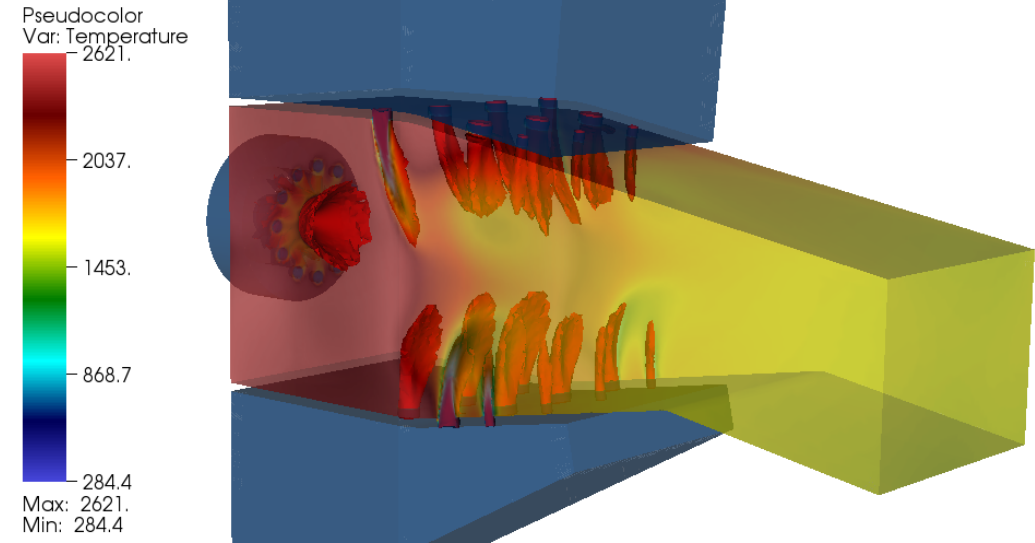
- Turbulence models
 - std. $k-\omega$, $k-\omega$ -*SST*, $k-\omega$ -*SST-SAS*, std. and mod. $k-\epsilon$, wall functions, buoyancy modification
 - LES-WALE, std. *SA*, *SA-DES*, *SA-DDES*, *SA-IDDES*
- Combustion Models
 - Models for turbulent combustion:
 - EDM (Eddy Dissipation Model) , EDM/FRC (Finite Rate Chemistry)
 - Flamelet-PDF (Probability Density Function), TFC (Turbulent Flamespeed Closure)
 - Detailed chemistry-JPDF (Joint Probability Density Function) (stiff chemistry solver)
 - Detailed pollutants formation models (soot, NOx)
 - Lagrange/Euler multi-phase model (SPRAYSIM) (fluid fuel)
- convective heat transport
- radiation heat transfer, RSMC (volume, surface, absorption), DTRM (surface)
- gravity
- scalar mixing

Applications - Combustion - General overview

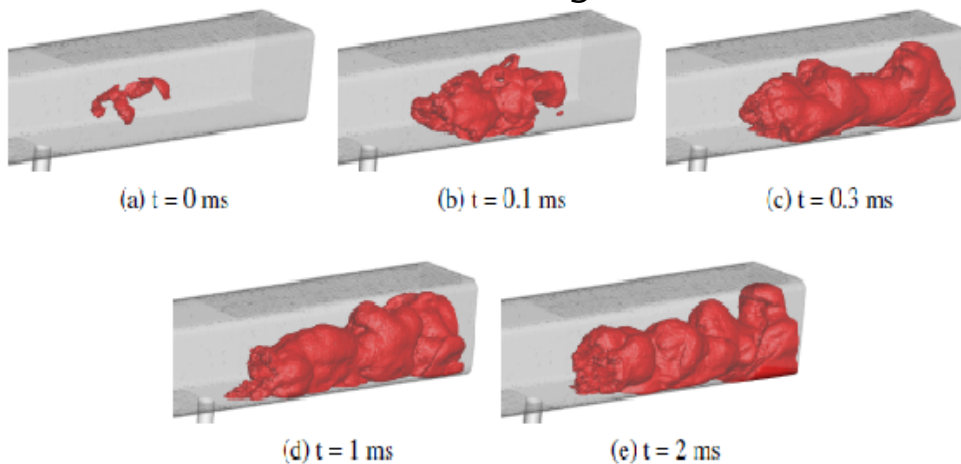
Gas turbine



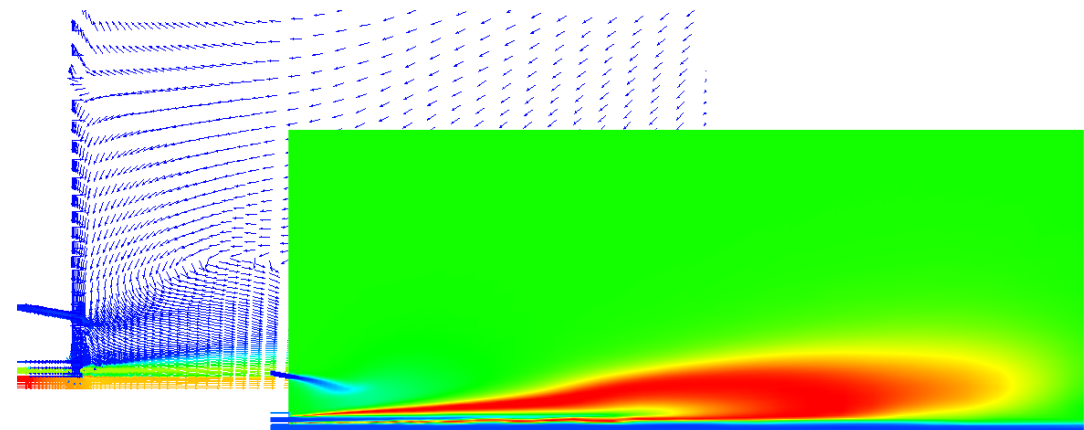
Aero engine



Auto ignition

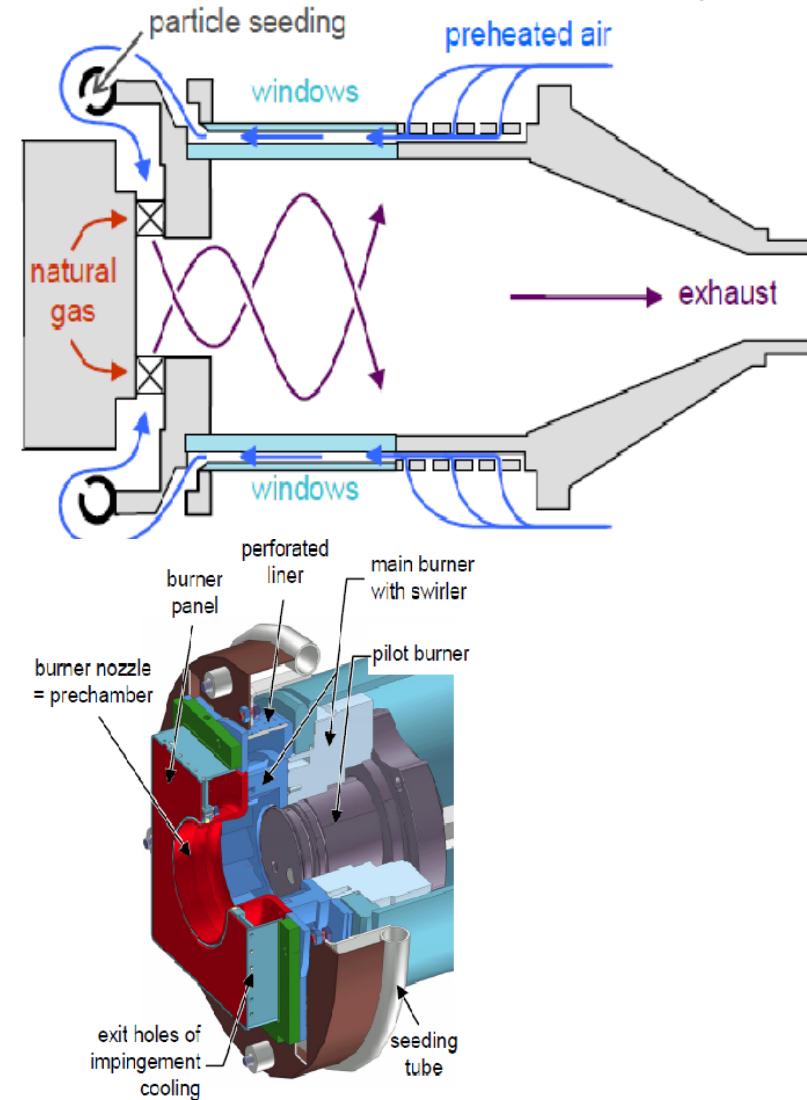


Flow reactors



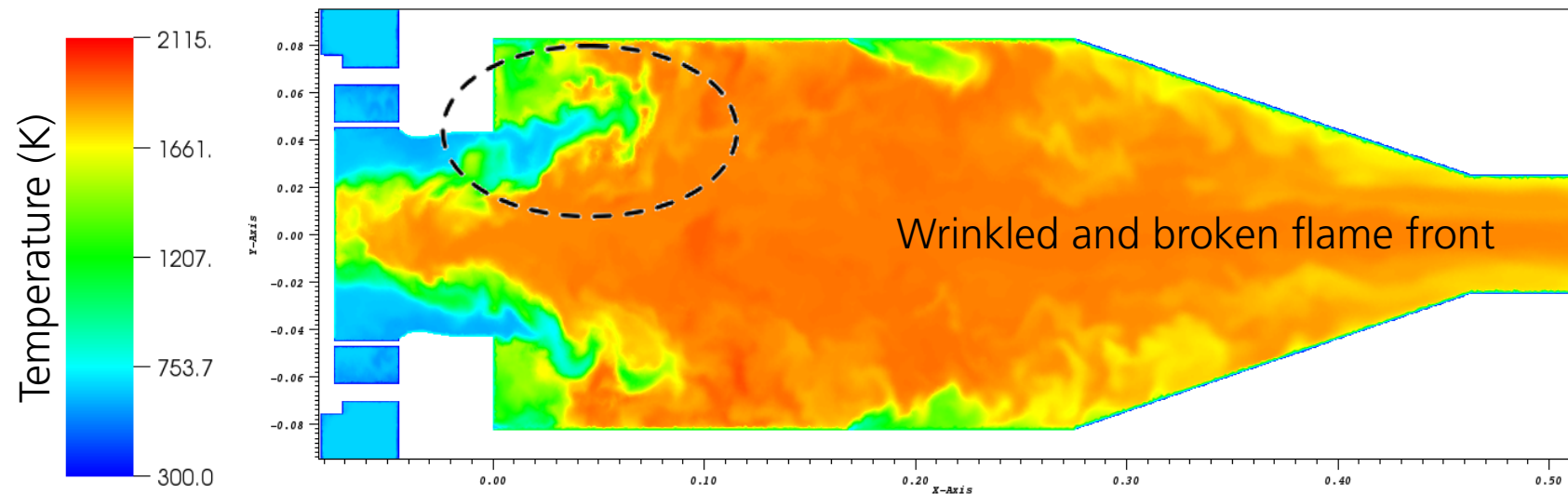
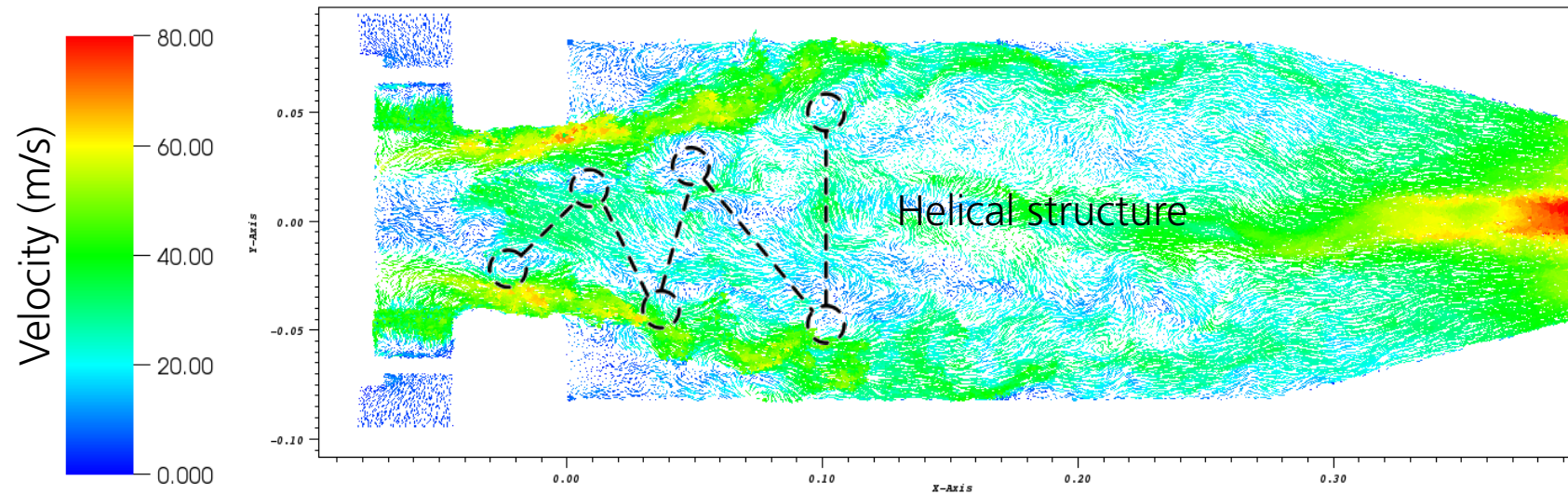
Applications - Combustion - Natural stationary gas turbine combustor (G30)

- A fully tetrahedral grid used (21M elements and 3.8M points)
- Second order BDF for time advancement
- Second order CDS for momentum equations
- Second order, upwind based discretization schemes for scalar equations
- Time step: 2.5×10^{-6} s (CFLmax = 4)
Wall-adapting local eddy-viscosity (WALE) model
- Eddy-Dissipation Concept (EDC) combustion model



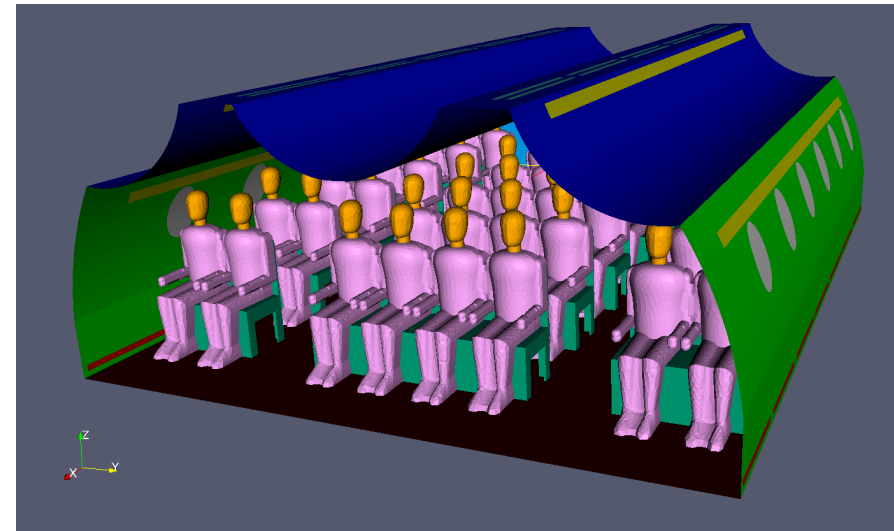
*U. Stopper, Turbochemi Final Report, Confidential, 2010

Applications - Combustion - Natural stationary gas turbine combustor (G30) - Two-dimensional plots



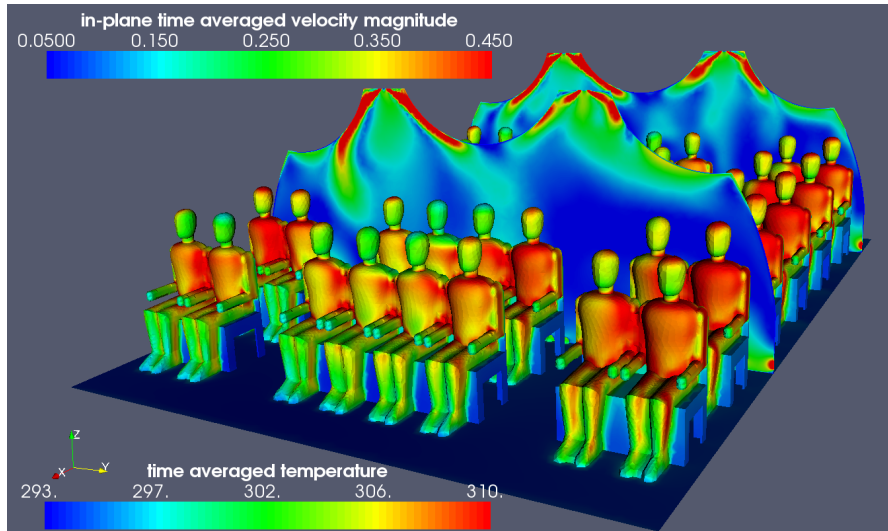
Applications - Generic wide-bodied aircraft cabin segment mock-up - Simulation settings

- hybrid unstructured grid 4.3 million points, 674000 wall boundary faces
- simulated physical time: 360s, quantities of interest are time-averaged over 240s after a preliminary lead time of 120s
- fixed numerical time step 0.2s
- parallel computation on 64 processors, 2GB, Quad Core AMD Opteron 2.1GHz: 16h 20min
- standard k - ω -turbulence-model with universal wall functions
- convective heat transport and heat radiation simulation, DTRM
- due to the unsteadiness of the considered flow we coupled the radiation module with the flow solver each time-step

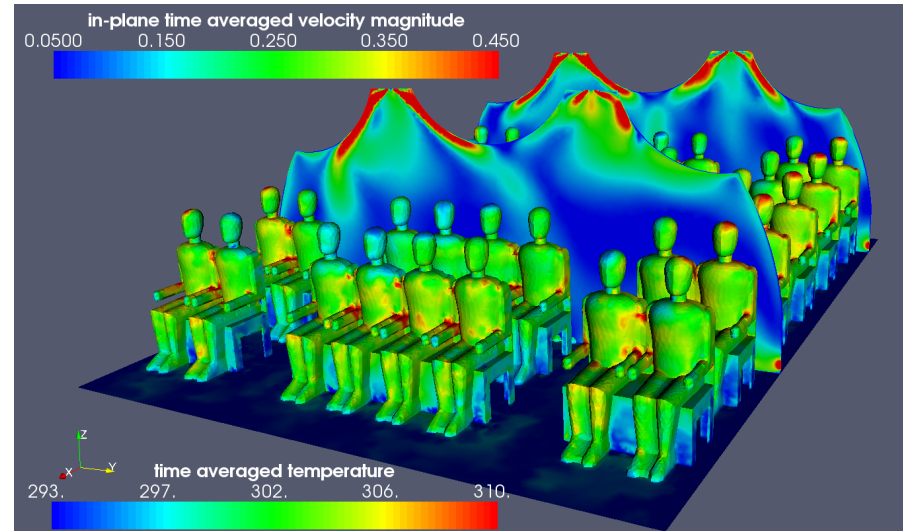


Applications - Generic wide-bodied aircraft cabin segment mock-up - Results

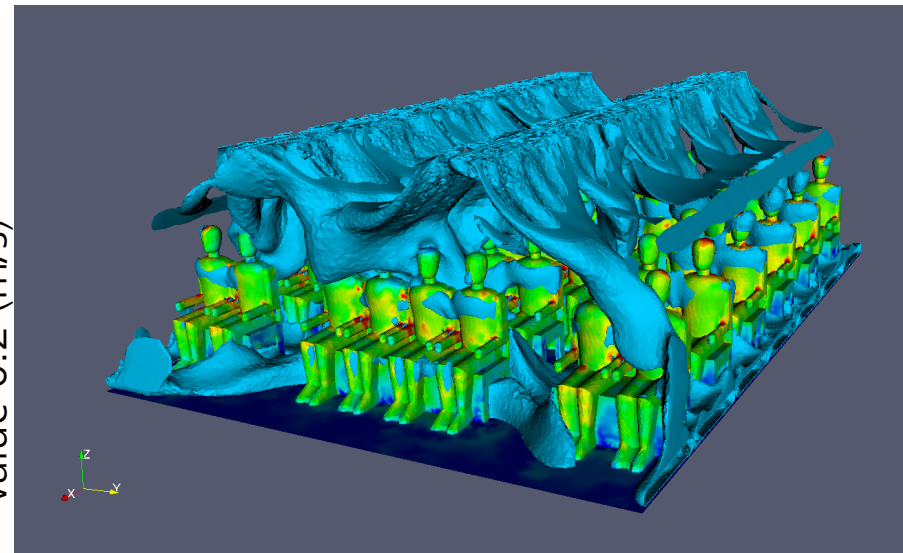
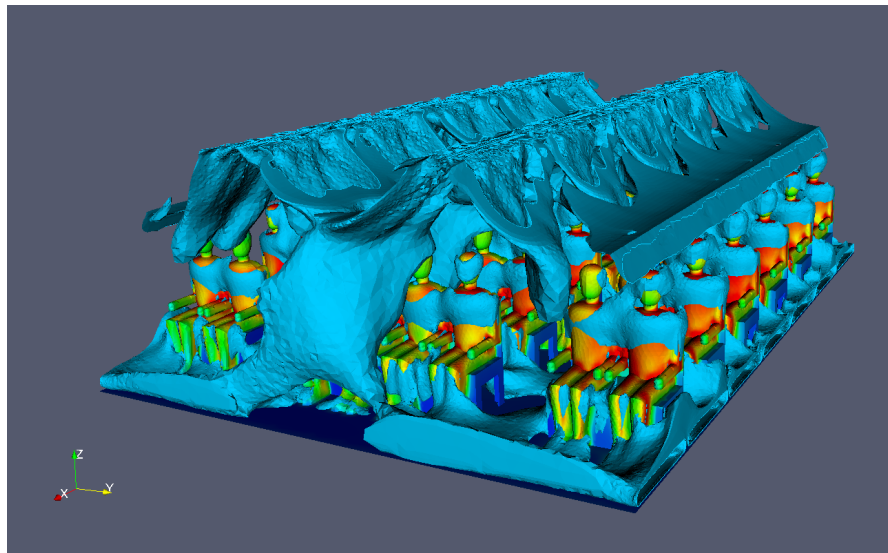
without radiation heat flux



with radiation heat flux

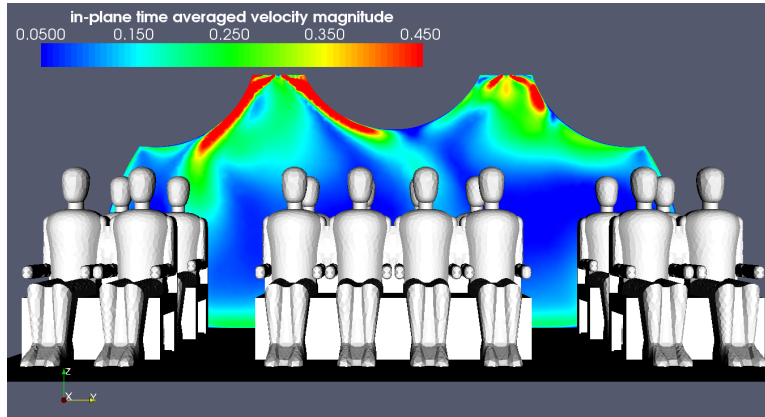


Iso planes time averaged
velocity magnitude of
value 0.2 (m/s)



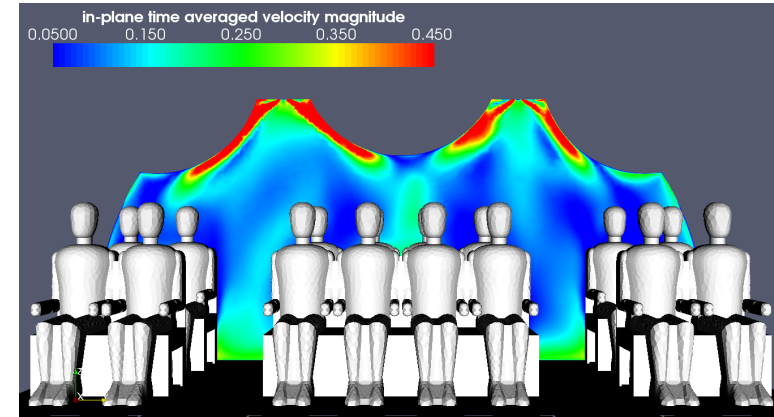
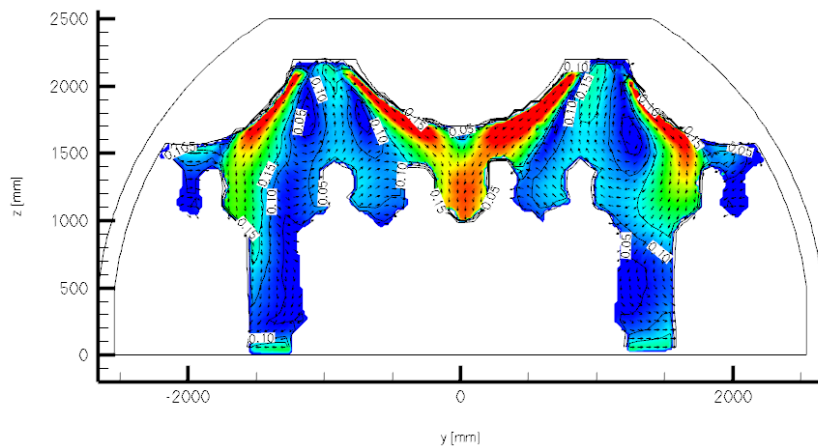
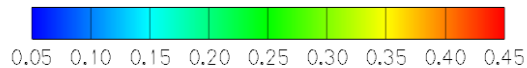
Applications - Generic wide-bodied aircraft cabin segment mock-up - Results

time averaged velocity magnitude simulation vs PIV-data



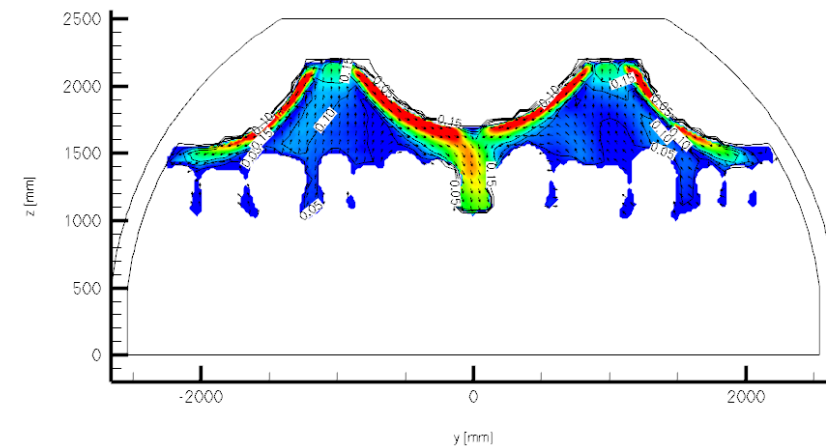
Average Velocity Magnitude [m/s]

cooled, VolFlow=540 [l/s]
at slice plane: x=928mm (MP1)

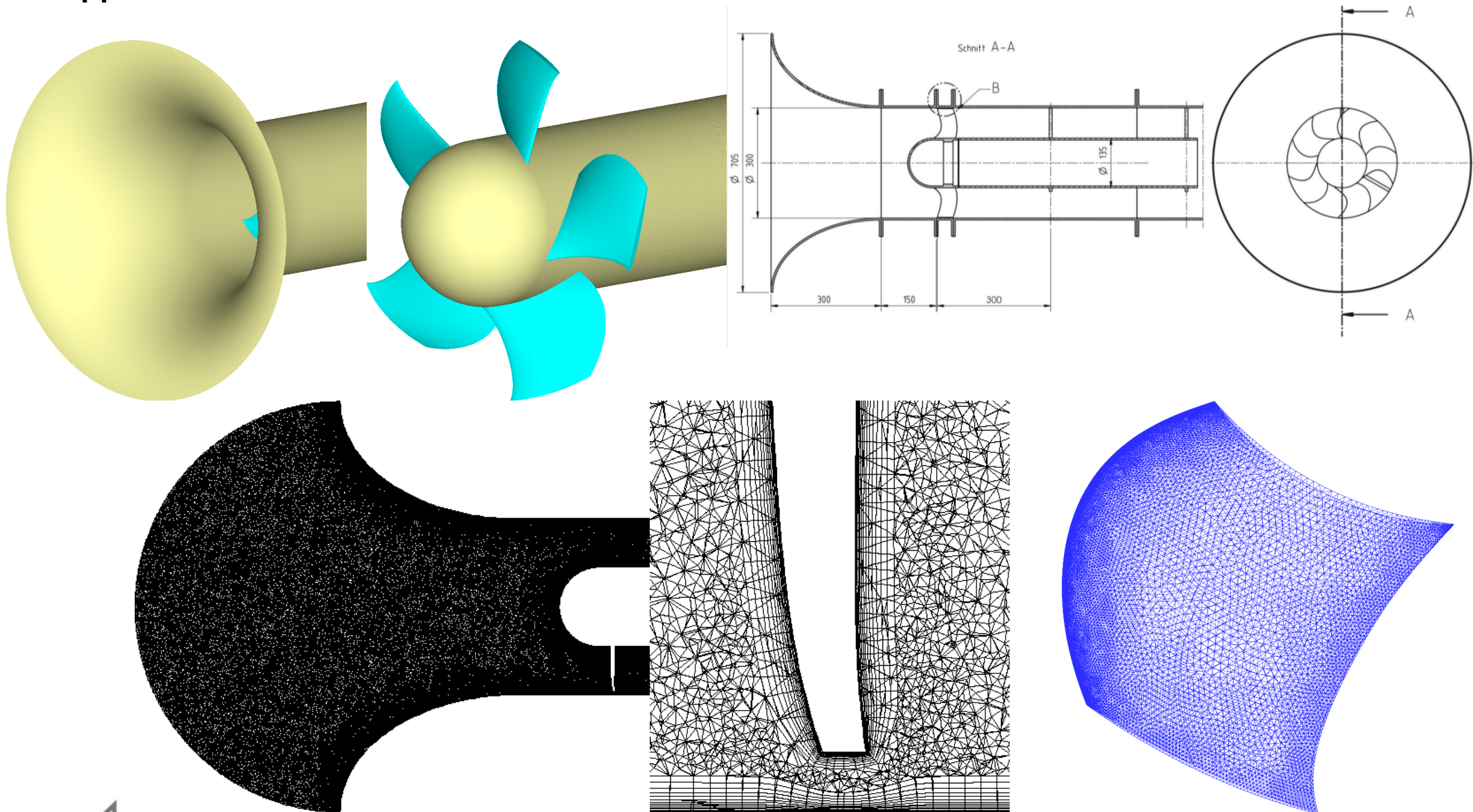


Average Velocity Magnitude [m/s]

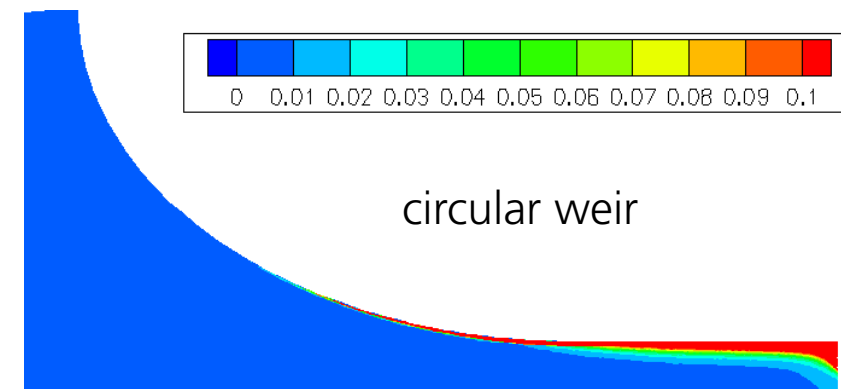
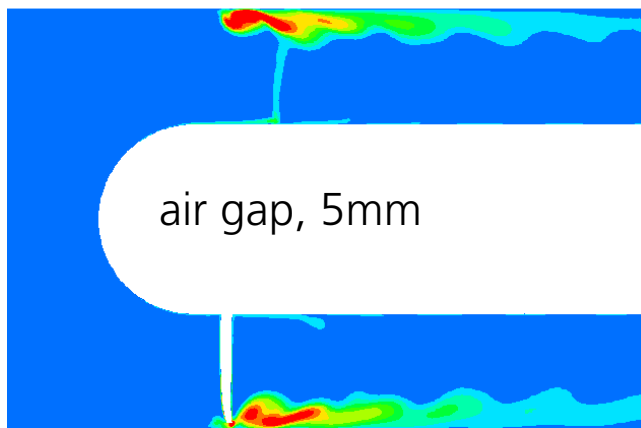
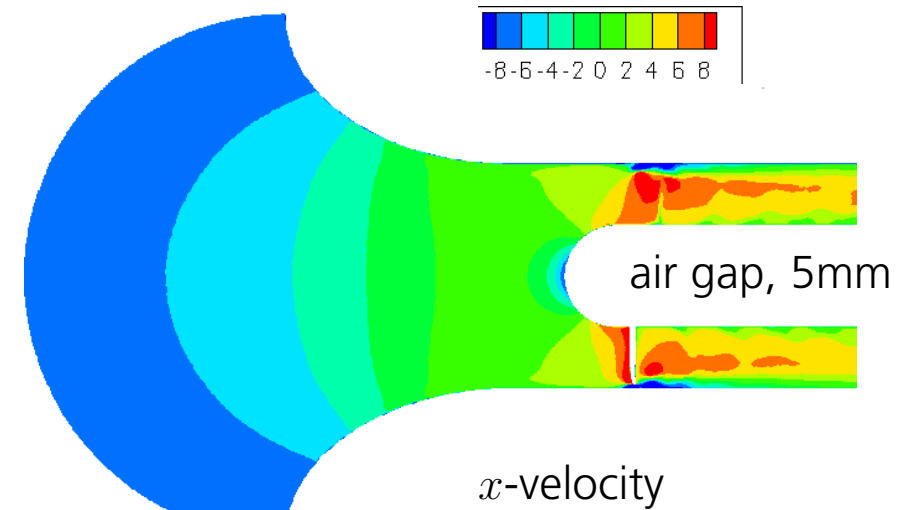
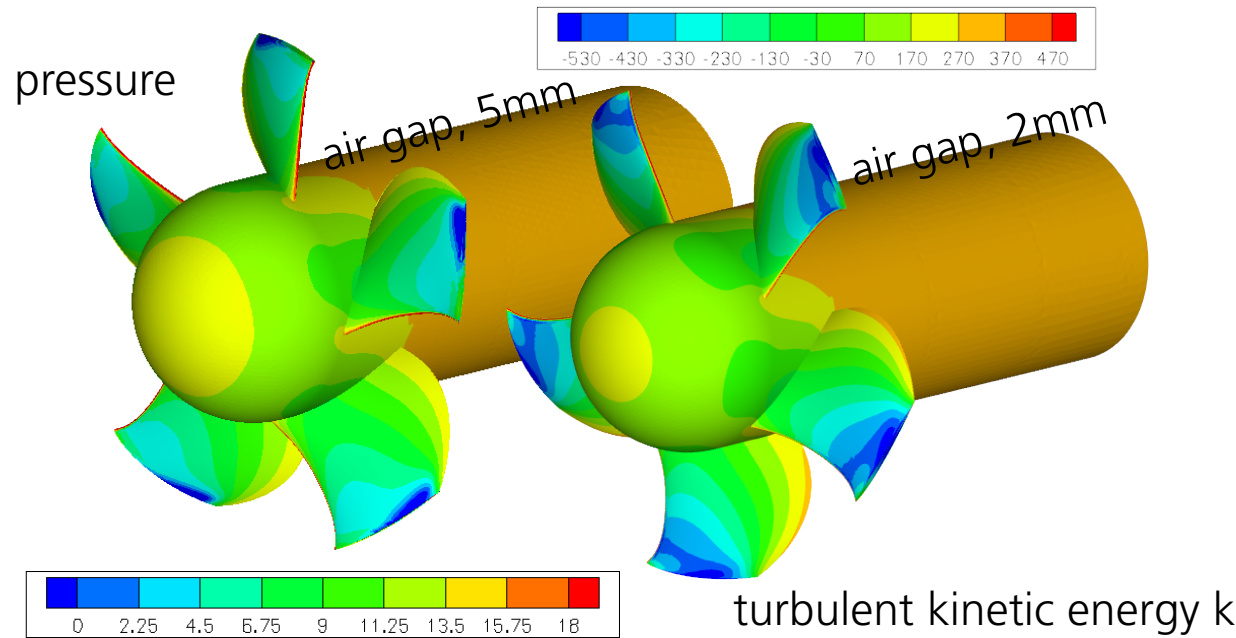
cooled, VolFlow=540 [l/s]
at slice plane: x=2880mm (MP2)



Applications - axial fan with circular weir and 5 blades



Applications - axial fan with circular weir and 5 blades





Outlook

- THETA is currently prepared for the application in the Simulation of wind turbine flows
 - THETA 2-5 times faster than TAU in the case of nearly incompressible flows like the wind turbine case
 - Computation of rotating wind turbine wings is possible with the current Version of THETA
 - Chimera-Technique is getting currently implemented with high priority
 - transition prediction transferred from TAU (C. Seyfert) available soon
 - After finishing this work THETA will be prepared for wide range of applications with rotating flows especial wind turbines
- THETA was 2-3 times faster than comparable commercial Codes in the case of instationary Cabin flow.
- TAU-THETA coupling
- Volume of Fluid Method (VOF) (together with Spacecrafts department)